

REMARKS

CLAIM REJECTION- 35 USC 102

The Examiner indicated that the present application is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 2,253,557 ('557) issued to Collins.

The Examiner also explained that the '557 patent shows in Fig. 2 a shock absorber capable of being used for a bicycle front fork, the shock absorber comprising a bolt 52,62, a driving rod shown to the left of element 62 extending into and securely received in an open end of the bolt, two resilient elements 59, 60 movably mounted around the bolt, and a knob 61 securely engaged with a free end of the driving rod to drive the driving rod and the bolt to rotate such that the two resilient elements are extended or compressed on the bolt in opposite directions.

After a careful review of the '557 patent, it is noted that the '557 patent is not a shock absorber but an actuator responsive to a door open-close mechanism.

Referring to paragraph 3, lines 16 to 25, it indicated that "both of the nuts 53-54 travel in the same direction with the result that one of them compresses its associated spring until the adjacent switch arm is forced to open position in a manner to appear later while at the same time, the compression in the other spring is diminished to such a point that the adjacent switch arm can be readily moved to the adjacent switch-closed position upon a subsequent energization of the electromagnetic actuator 31". From the above description, the '557 patent is not about a shock absorber, but an actuator mechanism. Further, the operational pattern of the '557 patent is not the same as that of the present application in that the two compression springs of the present application are simultaneously compressed or extended due to the right-handed and left-handed screw orientations of the first screw and the second screw on the bolt. However, from the description, the two nuts are moved in the same direction (which is not the same as the present

application because the two nuts of the present application move in two opposite directions), which results in that one of the springs is compressed and the other spring is extended. In addition, the screw of the '557 patent has only one threading formed thereon so that rotation of the screw would not move the two nuts in two opposite directions.

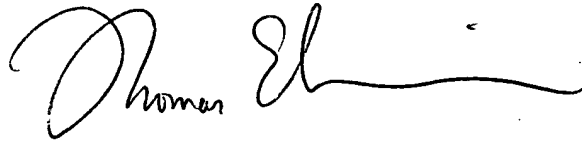
In view of the present application, the two second nuts are movable relative to the bolt in such a manner that the two springs are simultaneously compressed or extended so that the present application is used in a bicycle front fork as a shock absorber and the user is able to readily adjust the damping effect to cope with various terrains. Therefore, the '557 patent does not have the same function, work in the same way so as to create the same result as the present application. It is not correct to say that the '557 patent discloses the effect of the present application.

Applicant believes that after the amendment is made to the description and claims, the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) is overcome and thus favorable action thereto is earnestly solicited.

After the foregoing arguments, the applicant believes that the referenced application is patentable in view of the cited art, and an early granting of the application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

JACKSON WALKER L.L.P.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas E. Sisson", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

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Date: 3-25-2005

Laura Pope
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